

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-15 BIB-01 /048 W

----- 128056

R 030853Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3526

USDOC WASHDC

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

UNCLAS MANILA 18832

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECTS - PRESIDENT MARCOS' ANNOUNCEMENT ON  
DOMESTIC SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

REF: A. MANILA 15642 B. MANILA 16782

1. IN DECEMBER 1 SPEECH AT A BROADCASTERS CONFERENCE  
PRESIDENT MARCOS SAID, AMONG OTHER THINGS (REF B), THAT THE  
DOMESTIC SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM WOULD BE OPERATIONAL  
BY DECEMBER 1977 OR "AT THE LATEST BY JULY 1978" WHICH WOULD  
"LINK THE WHOLE COUNTRY BY RADIO AND TELEVISION." HE  
EXPLAINED THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS IMPORTANT NOT ONLY  
FOR GENERAL BROADCAST PURPOSES, BUT ALSO FOR NATIONAL  
DEFENSE AND EDUCATION.

2. WE REPORTED IN REF. A THAT DOMESTIC SATELLITE PHILIP-  
PINES, A PRIVATE COMPANY, HAD ENTERED INTO AN AGREEMENT  
WITH NIPPON ELECTRIC CO. OF JAPAN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION  
OF ELEVEN EARTH STATIONS IN SELECTED AREAS OF THE  
PHILIPPINES. THE PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENT SEEMS TO  
GIVE THAT PROJECT A MUCH HIGHER PRIORITY THAN IT  
ENJOYED BEFORE. COL. CESAR HECHANOVA OF DOMESTIC  
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SATELLITE PHILIPPINES STATED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS PROBABLY

WOULD NOT MEAN OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN CONSULTANTS  
AND U.S. SUPPLIERS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT,  
BECAUSE OF PRIOR PHILIPPINE COMMITMENTS TO THE JAPANESE.  
HE SAID THE JAPANESE WOULD BUILD THE ENTIRE DOMESTIC  
EARTH SYSTEM AND THAT THE NETWORK WOULD USE THE EXISTING  
INTELSAT FOR SPACE RELAY PURPOSES.

3. COL HECHONOVA ADDED, THAT THE ASEAN NATIONS PLANNED  
TO MEET DECEMBER 20 IN BANGKOK TO PLAN FOR A REGIONAL  
COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE NETWORK TO BEGIN OPERATIONS  
ABOUT 1983. HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS ASEAN PROJECT HAS  
GOOD PROSPECTS AND THAT POTENTIAL AMERICAN CONSULTANTS  
AND EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS SHOULD FOLLOW ASEAN DEVELOPMENTS.  
AMBASSADOR ROSARIO MANALO, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
PADRE FAURA, MANILA IS IN CHARGE OF ASEAN AFFAIRS FOR  
THE PHILIPPINES AS DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE GOP  
ASEAN SECRETARIAT GENERAL. COMMERCE MAY WISH TO  
PASS ABOVE TO THE US COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY.  
SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**To:** STATE COM  
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